

REMARKS

This paper is filed in response to the Office Action mailed October 30, 2007. Claims 1-17, 19 and 20 were pending in the application. Claims 1, 11, 14, 15 and 19 have been amended, and claims 10, 12, 13, 16, 17 and 20 have been canceled. Therefore, claims 1-9, 11, 14, 15 and 19 are now pending in the application and are submitted for reconsideration.

Request for Telephone Interview

Should issue of a final rejection be considered, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned by email to owend@howrey.com in order to schedule a telephone interview.

Objections to the Drawings:

The Figures were objected to because they did not show every feature of the invention specified in the claims. An amended version of Figure 2 is attached as described above. Applicants respectfully request an indication that the proposed amendments are acceptable.

Objections to Claims 12 and 20

Claim 12 was objected to as being dependent on a rejected base claim (see item 11 of the Office Action). The Examiner indicated that this claim would be allowable if amended to incorporate the limitations of the rejected base claim, i.e. claim 1, and any intervening claims, i.e. claim 10. Claim 1 has been amended to include these limitations. In view of the above, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the objections and allowance of claim 1. Claims 2-9, 11, 14 and 15 depend from claim 1 and are thus patentable on that basis. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request allowance of claims 2-9, 11, 14 and 15.

Claim 20 was objected to as being dependent on a rejected base claim (see item 12 of the Office Action). The Examiner indicated that this claim would be allowable if amended to incorporate the limitations of the rejected base claim, i.e. claim 19, and any intervening claims, i.e. none. Claim 19 has been amended to include these limitations. In view of the above, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the objections and allowance of claim 19.

Extension of Time

Any extension of time that may be deemed necessary to further the prosecution of this application is hereby requested. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 08-3038, referencing the docket number shown above.

Authorization to Communicate via email

Pursuant to MPEP 502.03, authorization is hereby given to the USPTO to communicate with Applicant's representative concerning any subject matter of this application by electronic mail. I understand that a copy of these communications will be made of record in the application file. Applicant's representative, David P. Owen, can be reached at email address owend@howrey.com.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned by telephone at the number given below or at email address owend@howrey.com in order to resolve any questions.

Respectfully submitted,



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